



Virtual Ideas to access Education at Home this week....

Dear families,

During this time it seems as though all of our routines have changed. As we rest and await news at home, here are a couple of tips and ideas to access materials using technology. We all must balance the extent of technology we would like to use during this time, please don't forget to turn off screens, (especially 1-2 hours before bedtime) and spend some time outside in the fresh air.

When you are enjoying screen time, here are a couple recommended apps and activities by Anchor teachers that are safe for our preschoolers to enjoy and learn.



Learning Ally is an online, electronic library of audiobooks. Each student has their own, individual login. Or, login to our shared library

1. Download the learning ally app for free, available on [Apple](#), [Android](#) or [google play](#)
2. Login Username: Anchor123
Password: Anchor123
3. Your child can choose and navigate a variety of books that go along with our past and present learning units at Anchor.



Visit <http://braillebug.org> today for games and secret messages in braille

[Check out this iPad app, Exploring Braille with Madilyn and Ruff](#)

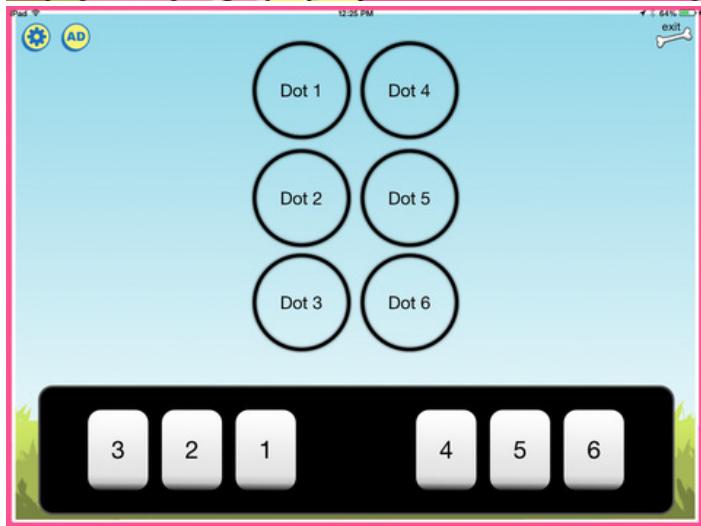
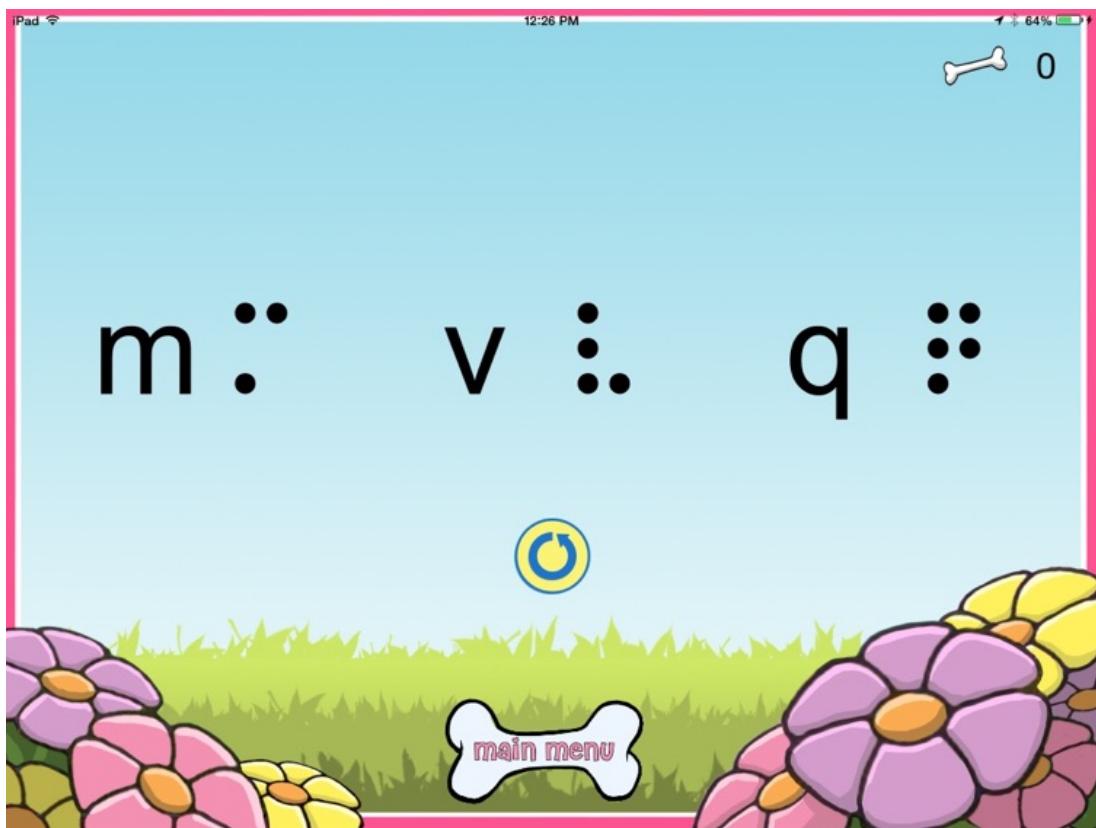
Teaching Tips:

[An app review by Wonderbaby](#)

This app was created by the mother and teacher of a child who is blind and designed to help young children learn the braille alphabet.

The app is geared toward children ages 4 - 10 years, although it can be used by anyone.





Looking for something routine and FAMILIAR that we all love?



The Wheels On The Bus HD on [Apple](#) and [Android](#)! (Ages 2-5)

Teaching Tips:

- *Turn down the volume. Allow your child to explore the app by looking at the pictures first.
- *Each picture has an interactive screen feature that MOVES! This can be great to catch visual attention of students with CVI.
 - > slide the wheels
 - > open and close the doors
 - > honk the horn
- *Let your child lead. Play follow the leader, or Simon Says. Ask your kids, what move should we do next? Make up your own silly moves and sound effects.

Did you know.....Visual Impairment can make it hard for our children to look at faces?

- the face is always moving, quickly
- some facial expressions can be hard to see or interpret
- We can practice looking at faces
- And understanding them by matching a sound, emotion or expression
- APH (American Printing House for the Blind, one of our favorite resources, has specifically designed this app for students with visual impairments!



Flip-Over FACES

The Flip-Over FACES App is designed for students with visual impairments, including students with low vision and/or a cognitive level of 5 years of age or older. Students with additional disabilities, such as autism or speech/language delays, may also benefit from using this app. This app allows a student to casually explore facial expressions within a fun and versatile context. The colors and features of the cartoon-like faces are designed to provide visual contrast and to maintain the student's interest. Generate hundreds of facial combinations by changing the eyebrow position, eye direction, and mouth type. Multiple hairstyles and eyeglass accessories are available as well. An audio description of an entire face can be played at any time. The background color can be toggled between black and white depending on personal preference and visual needs. Save favorite faces in a personal folder for later retrieval and sharing with friends.

As your student uses the Flip-Over FACES App, consider complementing and extending its use with the following activities:

- To encourage expressive language, ask the student to describe the features of the displayed face in her own words.

- Ask the student to generate a face that he thinks conveys a specific emotion (e.g., happy, sad, skeptical, afraid, surprised, etc.).
- Ask the student to mimic in a mirror the facial expression shown on the screen.
- Ask the student to display a face on the app that reflects how he feels that day/at that moment
- Ask the student to create a story that explains why the face looks sad, disgusted, tired, etc.
- Ask the student to draw a similar style face as that shown on the screen. Consider using a tactile drawing board.
- Use the app to reinforce shape and spatial concepts—eyes are above the nose/mouth, eyes are looking down/up, eyebrows are straight/curved, hair is short/long, swipe left/right, the eyeglasses have round/square frames, etc.
- Use the app to broaden vocabulary to describe a variety of emotions— confused/baffled, worried/concerned, angry/upset, sad/melancholy, happy/glad, disgusted/irritated, embarrassed/ashamed, etc.

APH Project Design Team

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